

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LIMA 00006 242045Z
ACTION ARA-15

INFO OCT-01 ADS-00 NEA-07 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 PA-02 ICA-15 SP-02 /052 W
-----130977 242112Z /64
R 212140Z NOV 79
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8460

UNCLAS LIMA 0006

EO 12065: N/A
TAGS: PINS, IR
SUBJ: PRESS COMMENT ON EVENTS IN TEHRAN

1. SUMMARY: ALL PUBLICATIONS IN LIMA HAVE BEEN DEVOTING CONSIDERABLE SPACE TO INTERNATIONAL WIRE SERVICE COVERAGE OF EVENTS IN TEHRAN CONCERNING HOSTAGES AT US EMBASSY. HOWEVER, TO DATE THERE HAS BEEN NO EDITORIAL COMMENT ON THIS SUBJECT. LOCALLY-WRITTEN ARTICLES HAVE BEEN VERY FEW. NOV 19 EDITION OF SENSATIONALIST WEEKLY "OIGA", UNDER THE HEADING "CARTER AND KHOMEINI CONFRONT EACH OTHER", PROVIDED A LENGTHY SUMMARY OF RECENT EVENTS. THE ONLY COMMENTARY APPEARED IN NOV 16 EDITION OF LEADING DAILY "EL COMERCIO" IN NOV 19 EDITIONS OF WEEKLY MAGAZINES "GENTE" AND "CARETAS", AND IN NOV 21 EDITION OF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER "EL TIEMPO", END SUMMARY.

2. UNDER TITLE OF "EXCHANGE OF VENGEANCE," NOV 19 EDITION OF "EL COMERCIO" CARRIED ARTICLE BY HUGO GUERRA (SPANISH SUPPLIED IN USINFO 9853) AS A "COUNTRY WHOSE PRIDE AS A SUPERPOWER IS WOUNDED." GUERRA OBSERVED THAT "THE CURRENT SITUATION IS AT AN IMPASSE, WHICH CAN BECOME AN INTERNATIONAL TRAGEDY AT ANY MOMENT." HE ALSO EXPRESSED THE OPINION THAT "EVEN THOUGH THE SHAH WAS AN IRON DICTATOR, THIS FACT DOES NOT JUSTIFY THE ACTIONS SUPPORTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF IRAN." IN HIS JUDGMENT, "NOT TO
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LIMA 00006 242045Z

ACCEPT THE RULES FOR LIVING TOGETHER IN THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS TO OPEN THE DOOR TO THE REESTABLISHMENT OF THE LAW OF THE JUNGLE."

3. THE "GENTE" (POPULAR TABLOID) ARTICLE REFERRED TO THE US POSITION IN THE CONTROVERSY AS "THE MOST JUST AND PERTINENT IN THIS MOMENT OF WORLD SUSPENSE." IT ALSO

OBSERVED THAT KHOMEINI "IS SETTING A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT... LEGALIZING AN ACT OF TERRORISM, A RECOURSE WHICH IS REPUDIATED BY THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE WORD." "GENTE" CONCLUDED BY SAYING"... ONLY THE FANATICISM OF THE AYATOLLAH KHOEMEINI AND HIS INSANE DEMAND FOR THE RETURN OF THE ILL SHAH, HOSPITALIZED IN THE US, DID NOT PERMIT HIM TO RECOGNIZE CLEARLY THE GRAVITY AND DANGERS WHICH THE SAID TERRORIST ACT POSES FOR HIS OWN GOVERNMENT."

4. "CARETAS" (LEADING WEEKLY NEWS MAGAZINE) CARRIED AN ARTICLE BY ALFREDO BARNECHEA (HOST OF POPULAR TV INTERVIEW PROGRAM "CONTRACTO DIRECTO"). BARNECHEA DESCRIBED KHOEMEINI AS "ONE OF THOSE FANATICS WHO WERE MARCHING IN PROCESSION IN 'THE SEVENTH SEAL' OF BERGMAN, LIKE A FOREST OF GHOSTS." ACCORDING TO BARNECHEA, KHOEMEINI "CHALLENGES THE ENTRIE LIBERAL EXPERIENCE AND TESTIFIES TO ITS EXTINCTION." IN HIS JUDGMENT, "THE REAPPEARANCE OF THESE RELIGIOUS LEADERS (KHOMEINI AND THE POPE), WHEN POLITICIANS ARE MEDIOCRE OR TECHNOCRATS, WOULD DEMONSTRATE PERHAPS THAT RELIGION IS NOT THE OPIATE OF THE PEOPLE, BUT RATHER A NATURAL WAY OF RESPONDING TO THE CONFUSION/CHAOS OF THE WORLD."

5. ACCION POPULAR (AP) LEADER AND FORMER FOREIGN MINISTER DR FERNANDO SCHWALB LOPEZ ALDANA ADDED HIS COMMENTS IN "THE VIOLATION OF AN EMBASSY", PUBLISHED NOV 21 IN RIGHTIST WEEKLY "EL TIEMPO". SCHWALB ASSERTED THAT UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 LIMA 00006 242045Z

"INTERNATIONAL PEACE IS THREATENED BY THE GRAVE CRISIS IN IRAN." IN ADDITION, HE CONTENTED THAT THESE EVENTS "CAN HAVE, NO MATTER WHAT THE OUTCOME, VERY ADVERSE REPERCUSSIONS FOR WORLD ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL STABILITY, ALREADY SERIOUSLY ENDANGERED BY THE INFLATION/RECESSION CRISIS WHICH PRINCIPALLY OPPRESSES THE POOR PEOPLES OF THE WORLD". HE CLOSED THE ARTICLE EXPRESSING THE HOPE THAT "THERE WILL BE NO BLOODBATH; BUT IF THE AYATOLLAH, SEPARATED AS HE IS FROM THE GREAT POWER CENTERS OF THE WORLD, PERSISTS IN CARRYING OUT HIS THREATS, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO THINK THAT THEY DAYS OF HIS GOVERNMENT ARE NUMBERED." SHLAUDEMAM

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, POLITICAL REPRESSION, DETENTION, POLITICAL SITUATION, DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS, ANTIAMERICAN FEELING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 21 nov 1979
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1979LIMA00006
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D790542-0860
Format: TEL
From: LIMA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1979/newtext/t19791140/aaaabggh.tel
Line Count: 107
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7d3c461f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 apr 2006
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 675408
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRESS COMMENT ON EVENTS IN TEHRAN
TAGS: PINS, IR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7d3c461f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014